SAP PM / 04

SAP PM Organizational Structure

Lesson screens · Examples · Exercises

PURPOSE

The asset location, the place responsible for planning and the planning group answer different questions. Learn the distinction through examples.

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

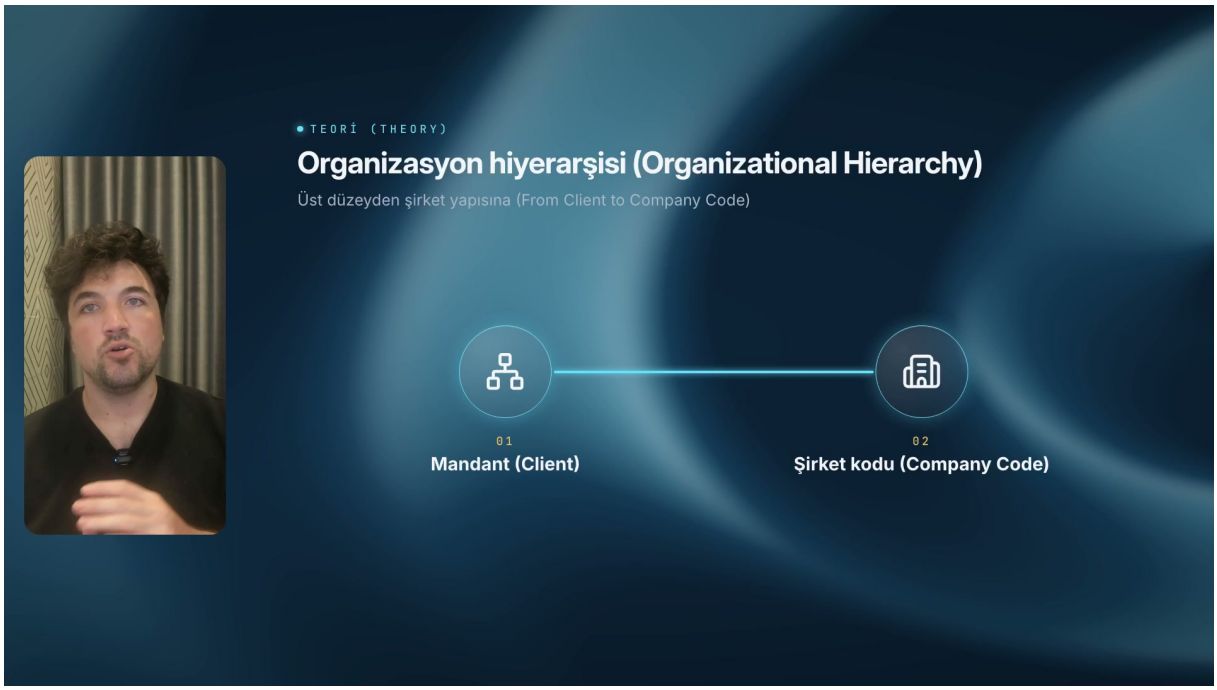
1. Understand client, company code and plant
2. Distinguish maintenance plant and planning plant
3. Explain planner group responsibility

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Read the explanation, then inspect the related lesson screen. Try the exercises before looking at the answer key. Timestamps below images show the moment in the long lesson from which the frame was taken. Codes belong to the example system; your training environment may use different values.

01

Why define an organizational structure?



00:40 | The client and company code relationship introduced in the lesson.

A maintenance record needs a clear business, plant and planning context. The client is a high-level data and organizational context in SAP. The company code is an accounting unit for which separate financial accounts can be maintained. A plant is one of the units used to organize business activities. We use the client, company code and plant sequence as a learning model; a real SAP organization includes more units and relationships. Being in a different city does not automatically require a different company code; accounting needs and company design matter.

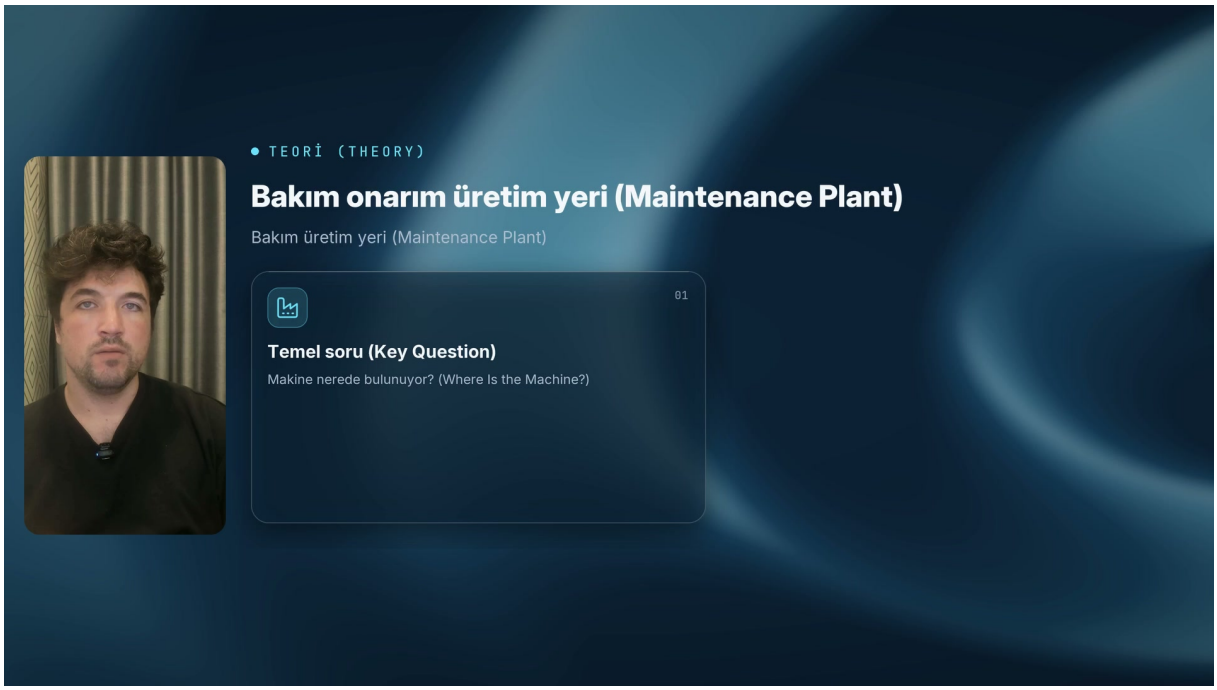
- Client: high-level organizational and data context
- Company code: financial accounting unit
- Plant: operational organizational unit

REMEMBER

Do not automatically assume a one-to-one match between factory, city, company code and plant.

02

Maintenance plant: where is the asset?



01:20 | Key question: where is the technical asset located?

The maintenance plant identifies the plant where the technical asset is physically located or installed. If a packaging machine is in the Ankara facility, the relevant SAP plant assignment represents its maintenance plant. A plant is not just a building name; it is an organizational unit with a code. The equipment description identifies the machine, while the maintenance plant provides its organizational location. Planning the work from another center does not change where the asset is located.

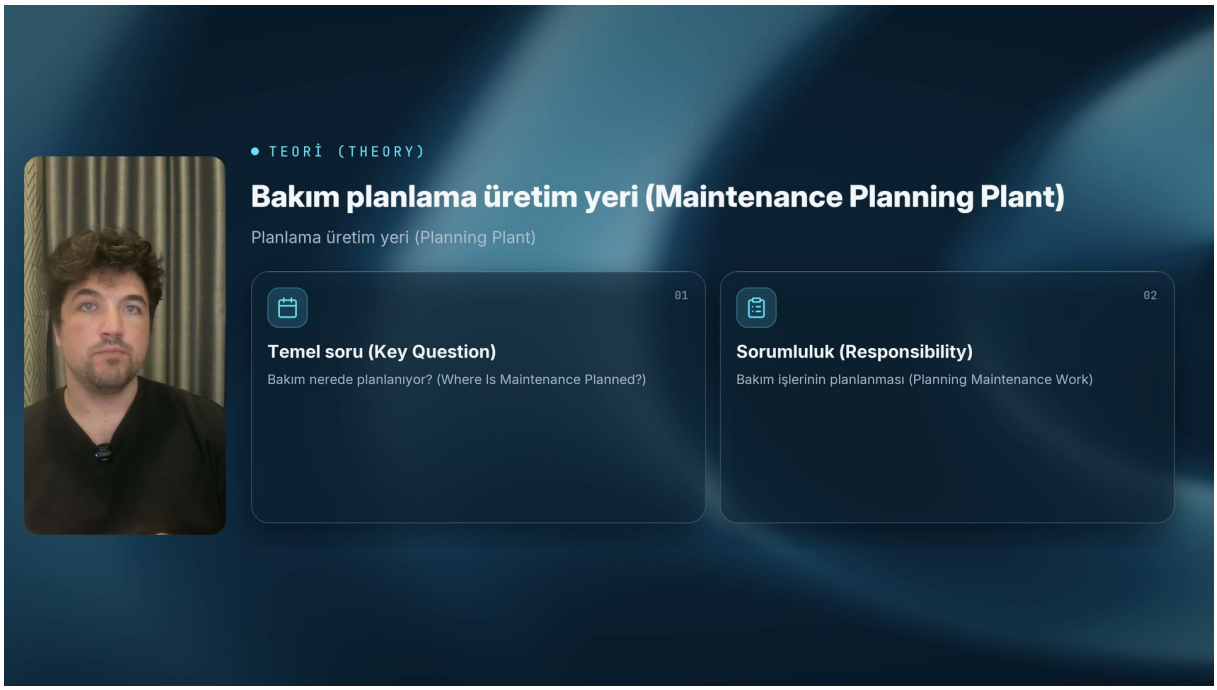
- Location question: where?
- The assignment is used in the technical object record
- It is considered separately from planning responsibility

REMEMBER

A maintenance team working from another office does not mean the asset belongs to that office's maintenance plant.

03

Planning plant: where is maintenance planned?



01:50 | Location and maintenance planning responsibility are different assignments.

The maintenance planning plant is the plant responsible for planning maintenance. It can be the same as the asset's location or can plan centrally for other plants. If one center plans maintenance for two facilities, their assets may have different maintenance plants but a shared planning plant. The distinction separates location from planning responsibility. System assignments should follow the company's maintenance organization. Copying the codes from another training system is not a way to design your own organization.

- Maintenance plant: where is the asset?
- Planning plant: which plant plans the work?
- The values can be the same or different

REMEMBER

Instead of asking "must they match?", ask "where does the company plan maintenance?"

04

Local and central planning examples

01

Maintenance plant A

02

Planning plant M

03

Maintenance plant B

In a local example, the Ankara factory plans maintenance for its own machines; the maintenance and planning plant may be the same. In a central example, one planning center organizes maintenance for the Ankara and Izmir facilities. The physical asset locations stay separate while planning responsibility is shared. The letters A, B and M here are teaching labels, not SAP codes to enter. The choice does not depend only on the number of facilities. Planning responsibilities and reporting needs also matter.

- Local: planning for A is performed by A
- Central: M plans for both A and B
- Location and planning remain separate assignments

REMEMBER

This diagram is not a sequence or material flow; it illustrates two facilities sharing a planning center.

05

What does a planner group identify?



02:54 | A planning plant can contain different planner groups.

A planner group identifies the group responsible for planning within a planning plant. Mechanical and electrical planning may use separate groups. The group does not have to be the team performing the work in the field. A planner may organize the scope, timing and resource needs, while the executing resource is represented by a work center. Do not interpret a group code alone: check its planning plant and responsibility. Similar-looking codes can have different meanings in different contexts.

- Planning plant: responsible organizational unit
- Planner group: planning responsibility within that unit
- Work center: responsible or executing resource

REMEMBER

Do not assume that code “910” represents the same team in every SAP system.

06

Choosing assignments with three questions

01

Maintenance plant

02

Planning plant

03

Planner group

When reviewing a new equipment record, first identify its location. Then determine where maintenance is planned and which group is responsible there. A machine may be in Izmir, with planning handled by a center in Ankara and responsibility assigned to mechanical planning. These details belong in one business description but map to different fields. Match the fields to real responsibilities instead of filling them only because they are required. The next lesson shows these assignments in equipment and maintenance order screens.

- If the asset moves, review the location question
- If planning is reorganized, review responsibility
- Assess the effect on existing orders separately

REMEMBER

Do not assume that changing master data automatically updates every existing order.

Try it yourself

01 EXERCISE

The machine is in plant A, planning is in center M, and electrical planning is responsible. Map the three fields.

02 EXERCISE

Can the same team plan and perform work? Why are the concepts still separate?

03 EXERCISE

Two facilities are in different cities. Do they necessarily need different company codes?

Answer key

01 SAMPLE ANSWER

Maintenance plant: A. Planning plant: M. Planner group: electrical planning. These are teaching labels.

02 SAMPLE ANSWER

The same people can perform both roles. A planner group represents planning responsibility; a work center represents responsibility or a resource for execution.

03 SAMPLE ANSWER

No. Geography alone does not decide this; accounting and organizational design matter.

Quick glossary and further reading

Client	High-level data and organizational context
Company code	A unit for separate financial accounts
Maintenance plant	Plant where the technical asset is located
Planning plant	Plant responsible for maintenance planning
Planner group	Responsible planning group within the planning plant

LESSON AND SCREEN SOURCE

ERPHub · Enes Alku. These expanded notes are based on the related recorded lesson. Teaching scenarios and exercises were prepared for this guide.

OFFICIAL FURTHER READING

SAP Learning - Explaining Organizational Levels ↗

SAP Learning - Configuring Organizational Units ↗

Screens come from the lesson's SAP GUI environment. Fields may vary by version, theme, authorization and company configuration. Cloud Public Edition references support the concepts; their menu paths may differ.